

From: Douglas Baggett
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/5/01 10:21am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to state for the record my opposition as a citizen and as a computer professional against the government settlement with Microsoft. In my opinion and experience with the IT industry, this settlement will neither

A. Redress the damage done by Microsoft using its monopoly power in desktop operating systems for Intel based microprocessors.

Venture Capitalists are extremely hesitant to fund start-up companies that wish to compete in Intel desktop operating systems. Microsoft's past actions have resulted in the almost complete elimination of any commercially viable alternative to Microsoft in desktop operating systems for Intel microprocessors. LINUX is not a commercial operating system, its license does not allow for companies who distribute it to charge for it, they are as the law applies, only selling support services for LINUX, the development of LINUX cannot be funded with by sales, therefore does not apply, the Macintosh is not an Intel based operating system and also does not apply.

B. Restrict Microsoft from using its monopoly power to stifle competition within or near their Desktop Operating system.

The current settlement does not address the future, almost all of the restrictions placed on Microsoft have legal loopholes allowing Microsoft to ad-hear to the letter of the law, but not the spirit. The current settlement also mainly restricts actions that Microsoft has eliminated from it's business practices years ago.

thank you

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